

REMARKS

Claims 1-32 are pending in the application.

Claims 1-16 were withdrawn from consideration.

Claims 17-25, 28, and 29 were rejected.

Claims 31 and 32 are allowed.

Claims 26, 27, and 30 are objected to as being dependent from a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Claim 17 has been amended to incorporate dependent Claim 27.

Claims 1-16 and 27 have been cancelled without prejudice.

New Claims 33-36, depending from amended Claim 17, have been added.

The specification has been amended as indicated above.

No new matter has been added.

Reconsideration of the Claims is respectfully requested.

In the previous response, Election of Group II, Claims 17-32 was affirmed. In placing this application in condition for allowance, Applicant has cancelled Claims 1-16 without prejudice, and further reserves the right to present these claims in a subsequent divisional and/or continuation application.

The abstract of the disclosure was objected to because the abstract is over 150 words. See MPEP § 608.01 (b). Appropriate correction has been made.

Applicant notes with the appreciation the indication that Claims 26, 27, and 30 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claim 17 has been amended to incorporate dependent Claim 27. Claim 30 has been amended to depend from amended Claim 17. Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 22-26, and Claims 28-30, and new Claims 33-36 introduced from previously cancelled Claims 18-21, are in condition for allowance.

As a result of the foregoing, the Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 17, 22-30, and 33-36 are in condition for allowance in addition to Claims 31-32, and respectfully requests an early allowance of such Claims.

Appl. No. 10/007,435
Amendment dated February 28, 2006
Reply to Final Office Action mailed November 29, 2005

If any issues arise, or if the Examiner has any suggestions for expediting allowance of this Application, the Applicant respectfully invites the Examiner to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below or at ksmith@texaspatents.com.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees connected with this communication or credit any overpayment to Garlick Harrison & Markison Deposit Account No. 50-2126 (BP1906).

Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 28, 2006

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